

THE SHIELD OF FAITH: PART IV
EPHESIANS 6:10-20
JULY 26, 2009

Questions for Study & Reflection

1. Read Heb 11:8-19 and review the four specific things for which Abraham and Sarah were commended. Why do you think the Lord highlighted these specific things?
2. Read Genesis 17:1 - 18:15 and reflect on faith in Sarah's life. Why do you think she laughed at the promise of God? What proof do you see that despite her laughter, she continued exercising faith in the faithfulness of God and his words?
3. Read Genesis 21:1-7 and reflect on the faithfulness of God. Notice particularly the phrases "as he said" and "as he had promised" and "at the time of which God had spoken to him." How does the faithfulness of God relate to the words God speaks? How, then, does our faith relate to those words?
4. Reflect on Hebrews 11:12 and ask the Lord to give you insight into the fact that you, as a believer in Jesus Christ, are a partial fulfillment of his words to Abraham and a living example of the fact that he is faithful.
5. Read Genesis 22 and reflect on the nature of the commandment God issued to Abraham. How does this story display the strength of Abraham's faith in God? Remembering that he had been walking with the Lord in the land of Canaan for some 40 by this time, how did Abraham come to have such strong faith?
6. What was the Lord's purpose in asking Abraham to make this sacrifice? Why did God stop him before he could follow through all the way? What does this tell us about the nature of our need to trust God in all that he asks of us?
7. Pastor Charlie has said for several weeks now that faith is trust in the faithfulness of God, and the faithfulness of God is a shield for all who believe. Are you trusting in the Lord and in his word at this time of your life? What might the Lord be saying to you personally through this series of sermons?